Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—May I know why the balance was not spent?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—The work has not progressed to such an extent as to spend money.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—How much of the second year's allotment will be spent in the course of 1113?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—The whole of 1¼ lakhs and the balance here will be spent this year.

Thekkinkad Maidan—improvement of—tenders for.

309. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the names of contractors who tendered for the construction of drains, etc., in the Thekkinkad Maidan with the rates of reductions offered by them;

(2) the name of the person whose tender was accepted;

(3) the probable cost of work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—

(1)

1.	Mr. N. O. Inasu	33½ o/o less
2.	Mr. A. S. Mahadeva Ayyar	22½ o/o less
3.	Mr. K. V. Inasu	22¾ o/o less
4.	Mr. K. V. Ayyappan	21¾ o/o less
5.	Mr. K. M. Kunju Ezhuthassan	31¾ o/o less
6.	Mr. Naickan Raman Bhadran	34¾ o/o less
7.	Mr. P. U. Antony	21 o/o less

(2) Mr. N. O. Inasu.

(3) The estimated cost is Rs. 22,100.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*).—Is there not an understanding that the whole of the earthworks should be given to Naickens alone?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—Yes.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*).—Is not the major portion of this, earthwork?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—No.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—In view of the fact that the work was of a nature that did not require any particular skill why was it not given to the lowest tenderer Mr. Rama Bhadran whose rate was 34¾% less, in preference to Mr. Inasu?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—I do not agree with the Member that the work is one which does not require skill.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—After all is not the major portion of the work, construction of drains?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—Very delicate curves in roads have to be done with proper skill.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—That will be supervised by superior officers?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—We required a contractor who had special experience in this work because with the staff at our disposal it was very difficult to supervise the work properly.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam*).—Is not this Mr. N. O. Inasu, Chairman of the Trichur Municipality?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—That was not a consideration in entrusting the work.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Is he not the Chairman? If he is not the Chairman my question will be unnecessary.

Mr. President.—The latest information is that he is the Chairman.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—If that is so is not the Municipality interested in this work which is a portion of the town improvement work of Trichur?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—Just like any other scheme, the Municipality has interest in this scheme also.

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Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Then who will effectively supervise this work? Here is a Chairman who is interested in your work, who is at the same time interested in getting the maximum money. How will you reconcile both?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—The work is done under supervision of the P.W.D.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Was not the Government aware that he was the Chairman when the work was entrusted to him.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—Yes.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—Does the Municipality contribute any amount to this work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—No.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram.)*—Does not the Government think that it would be much better not to entrust the work to the Chairman within the Municipality? The idea is that the Municipal Chairman is a person who has some influence within the Municipality. There are many contractors in the Municipality and those contractors can be utilised for this work at a cheaper rate. That is the point. The Municipal Chairman is a man of power. Many contractors are working under him and those contractors will be entrusted with this work by Mr. Inasu, the contractor. I have endeavoured to bring this matter once before the notice of the Government. There is a rule that even a relative of a Councillor cannot take any work in the Municipality. The Council is so very jealous that even a relative of a Councillor is not allowed to take any work in the Municipality. Here is a Chairman who is given the work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—The Member is entirely wrong. Here the fund is from the Devaswam Department. The work is estimated and supervised by the Public Works Department. There is absolutely no objection in giving the work to any Chairman.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Has the Chairman any voice in that?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—He has no voice.

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Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Is not this work taken up at the request of the Municipality?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—It was at the request of the Devaswom Department.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Is the Hon'ble Member quite sure that it was not started as a town improvement scheme?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—I am perfectly right.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—There was a plan prepared by the Municipality when I was the Chairman.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur South).*—Is Mr. Naicken in the list of approved contractors?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—For doing earth work he is satisfactory.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur South).*—Is there a separate list for works other than earth work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—Yes, we have. But we do not maintain a separate list.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Are we to understand that Mr. Naicken is an approved contractor only for earthwork?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—His special aptitude is for earthwork. I will not entrust him with such delicate works as the present one.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—What is the delicacy of the work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—The Member has no idea.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—I have some idea of the work.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Are we to take it that Mr. Naicken is an approved contractor only for earthwork and not for any other work?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—It would appear that Mr. Naicken himself is attending to the whole work.

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*— We do not maintain a separate list for earth work, road work and so on. We have only a general list of approved contractors. The approved contractors are generally given certain facilities for tendering purposes. A man may be doing only earth work for fifteen years and he may not be capable at all to take up building works. But still we give him an approved contractor's place so that he also need not deposit the earnest money when tendering for works. This Naicken even though he may be doing contract works in the Department for many years he has not taken up even one building work. No building work of any great magnitude has been taken by him except constructing a latrine or some such thing.

Kizhakke-Chalakkudi-Pariyaram road—condition of.

310. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi).*— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the unsatisfactory condition of the Kizhakke Chalakkudi—Pariyaram road;

(b) is this road not metalled yet?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—

(a) The road has been repaired and is in a satisfactory condition now.

(b) Metal collection on the road has been completed. Spreading and consolidation will be done as soon as rains set in.

Parur-Chennamangalam Bridge—Completion of.

311. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*— Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether the construction of the Parur-Chennamangalam bridge was completed on the 1st of Makaram last as stated in one of the answers to a question in this Council;

(2) if the answer is in the negative the reasons for not completing; and

(3) the date on which it is likely to be completed?

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